

Checklist: Changing District Boundaries

Upcoming changes in district election procedures have led to inquiries about changing district boundaries. This can be a lengthy process. When a cooperative city or town is involved, the change can proceed quickly. Otherwise, the process is much more difficult and can take many months or years. Presented here is a summary of the necessary steps to accomplish several recent requests. For more details, please consult the full version of the Conservation Districts Law (Chapter 89.08 RCW).

RCW 89.08.010 (4)

...all incorporated cities and towns heretofore excluded from the boundaries of a conservation district established pursuant to the provisions of the state conservation district law, as amended, may be approved by the conservation commission as being included in and deemed a part of the district upon receiving a petition for annexation signed by the governing authority of the city or town and the conservation district within the exterior boundaries of which it lies in whole or in part or to which it lies closest....

RCW 89.08.185 (1st paragraph)

The local governing body of any city or incorporated town within an existing district may approve by majority vote a petition to withdraw from the district. The petition shall be submitted to the district for its approval. If approved by the district, the petition shall be sent to the commission. The commission shall approve the petition and forward it to the secretary of state and the boundary of the district shall be adjusted accordingly....

RCW 89.08.180 (2nd paragraph)

... the commission may upon the petition of a majority of the voters in any one or more districts or in unorganized territory adjoining a conservation district change the boundaries of a district, or districts, if such action will promote the practical and feasible administration of such district or districts.

Including Cities or Towns

- ❑ A city or town petitions the District for inclusion in the District
- ❑ The District signs the petition & forwards it to the Commission
- ❑ The Commission approves the petition
- ❑ The District pays the Secretary of State a nominal filing fee

Excluding Cities or Towns

- ❑ A city or town petitions the District for exclusion from the District
- ❑ The District approves the petition & forwards it to the Commission
- ❑ The Commission approves the petition
- ❑ The District pays the Secretary of State a nominal filing fee

Changing District Boundaries/ Annexation of Territory

- ❑ A majority of voters in both affected Districts petitions the Commission to change the District boundaries
- ❑ The Commission approves the petition
- ❑ The District pays the Secretary of State a nominal filing fee